We claim:

1. A method of treating a disease, condition, or disorder involving glutamate levels, the method comprising administering a transporter compound to an individual exhibiting symptoms of a disease, condition, or disorder involving transport of, or activation by, excitatory amino acids.

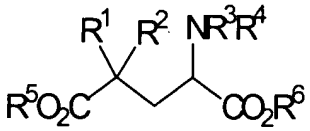
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound is an agonist of a glutamate receptor.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound is an antagonist of a glutamate receptor.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound is a ligand of a glutamate receptor.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound selectively binds to one type of glutamate transporter.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound has the structure



wherein

R^1, R^2, R^5 and R^6 are independently

1) C1-C6-alkyl,
2) C3-C4-alkenyl,
3) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,
4) H, or
5) halogen;

R^3 and R^4 are independently

1) H,
2) C1-C6-alkyl,
3) C3-C4-alkenyl,

4) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,

5) C1-C6-alkyl-CO-

6) C1-C6-alkyl-OCO-

7) C1-C6-alkyl-NHCO-

8) C1-C6-alkyl-SO_2-

9) CF_3SO_2-

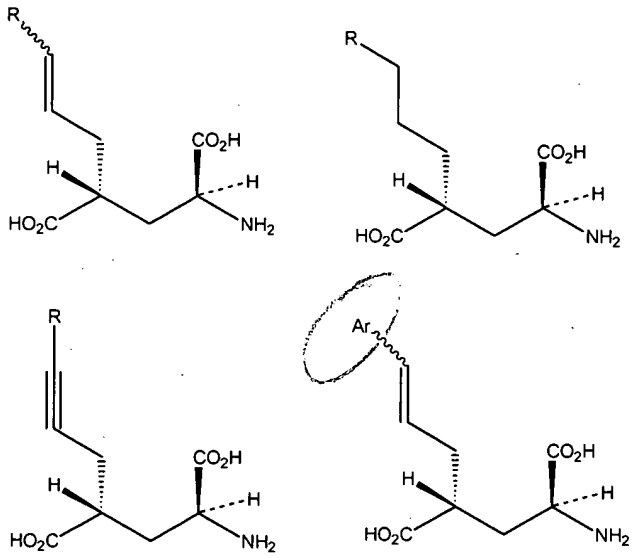
10) $PhSO_2$-

11) HCO-, or

12) C3-C6-alkynyl; and

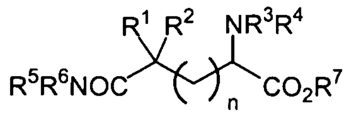
R^3 and R^4 taken together can be $-CH_2(CH_2)_nCH_2-$ wherein n is 0, 1, 2, or 3.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound has the structure



wherein R = H, C1-C6-alkyl, C3-C4-alkenyl, C3-C5-cycloalkyl, C1-C6-alkyl-CO-, C1-C6-alkyl-OCO-, C1-C6-alkyl-NHCO-, HCO-, or C3-C6-alkynyl.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound has the structure



wherein

n is an integer selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, 2, and 3;

R^1, R^2, R^5 and R^7 are independently

1) C1-C6-alkyl,
2) C3-C4-alkenyl,
3) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,
4) H, or
5) halogen;

R^3 and R^4 are independently

1) H,
2) C1-C6-alkyl,
3) C3-C4-alkenyl,
4) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,
5) C1-C6-alkyl-CO-
6) C1-C6-alkyl-OCO-
7) C1-C6-alkyl-NHCO-
8) C1-C6-alkyl-SO_2-
9) CF_3SO_2-
10) $PhSO_2$-
11) HCO-, or
12) C3-C6-alkynyl;

R^3 and R^4 taken together can be $-CH_2(CH_2)_mCH_2-$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

R^6 is independently

1) H,
2) C1-C6-alkyl,

3) C3-C4-alkenyl,

4) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,

5) C1-C6-alkyl-CO-

6) C1-C6-alkyl-OCO-

7) C1-C6-alkyl-NHCO-

8) C1-C6-alkyl-SO_2-

9) CF_3SO_2-

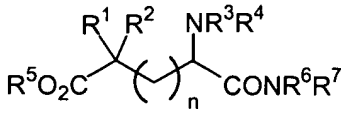
10) $PhSO_2$-

11) HCO-, or

12) C3-C6-alkynyl; and

R^5 and R^6 taken together can be $-CH_2(CH_2)_kCH_2-$ wherein k is 0, 1, 2, or 3.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the transporter compound has the structure



wherein

n is an integer selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, 2, and 3;

R^1, R^2, R^5 and R^7 are independently

1) C1-C6-alkyl,

2) C3-C4-alkenyl,

3) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,

4) H, or

5) halogen;

R^3 and R^4 are independently

1) H,

2) C1-C6-alkyl,

3) C3-C4-alkenyl,

4) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,

5) C1-C6-alkyl-CO-

6) C1-C6-alkyl-OCO-

7) C1-C6-alkyl-NHCO-

8) C1-C6-alkyl-SO_2-

9) CF_3SO_2-

10) $PhSO_2$-

11) HCO-, or

12) C3-C6-alkynyl;

R^3 and R^4 taken together can be $-CH_2(CH_2)_mCH_2$- wherein m is 0, 1, 2, or 3.

R^6 is independently

1) H,

2) C1-C6-alkyl,

3) C3-C4-alkenyl,

4) C3-C5-cycloalkyl,

5) C1-C6-alkyl-CO-

6) C1-C6-alkyl-OCO-

7) C1-C6-alkyl-NHCO-

8) C1-C6-alkyl-SO_2-

9) CF_3SO_2-

10) $PhSO_2$-

11) HCO-, or

12) C3-C6-alkynyl; and

R^6 and R^7 taken together can be $-CH_2(CH_2)_kCH_2$- wherein k is 0, 1, 2, or 3.